◆ AO 120 (Rev. 2/99)

TO: Mail Stop 8

Director of the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPORT ON THE FILING OR DETERMINATION OF AN ACTION REGARDING A PATENT OR TRADEMARK

In Comp	liance with 35 § 290 and/or	r 15 U.S.C. § 111	6 you are hereby a	dvised that a court act	ion has been
filed in the U.S. D	istrict Court <u>Northern I</u>	District of Califo	rnia on the follo	owing X Patents	or Trademarks:
DOCKET NO.	DATE FILED	U.S. DI	STRICT COURT	······································	. ,
CV 10-05210 PJH	11/17/2010	C	akland Division, 1	301 Clay Street, Suite	400S, Oakland, CA 94612
PLAINTIFF			DEFENDANT		
San Francisco Technology, Inc.			Franklin Spo	orts, Inc	
			•		
PATENT OR	DATE OF DATEN	т Т			
TRADEMARK NO.	DATE OF PATEN OR TRADEMAN		HOLDER OF PATENT OR TRADEMARK		
14,801,144					
22333369					
3					
4		·			
5					
• •					
In the above	ve-entitled case, the follow	wing patent(s) ha	we been included:		
DATE INCLUDED	INCLUDED BY				
		Amendment	☐ Answer	☐ Cross Bill	☐ Other Pleading
PATENT OR	DATE OF PATEN	l l	ногле	ER OF PATENT OR T	RADEMARK
TRADEMARK NO.	OR TRADEMARI	<u>K</u>			
1					
2					
3					
4					
5			<u> </u>		
	•	•			
In the above	ve—entitled case, the follow	wing decision ha	heen rendered or	iudaement issued:	
DECISION/JUDGEMENT	- Chinica case, the follow		o been rendered or	Juagement issued:	
DECISION/JUDGEMENT					
**See Attached Order of Transfer					
w					
CLERK (BY) DEPUTY CLERK DATE					DATE
Richard W. Wieking		ľ			i

Case4:10-cv-05210-PJH Document1 Filed11/17/10 Page1 of 5 E-FILING Kathryn G. Spelman, Esq. (Cal. Bar No. 154512) 1 Daniel H. Fingerman, Esq. (Cal. Bar No. 229683) E-FILING 2 Mount & Stoelker, P.C. RiverPark Tower, Suite 1650 3 333 West San Carlos Street San Jose CA 95110-2740 Phone: (408) 279-7000 5 Fax: (408) 998-1473 Email: kspelman@mount.com, dfingerman@mount.com 6 Counsel for San Francisco Technology Inc. 7 U.S. District Court 8 Northern District of California 9 10 - 05210San Francisco Technology Inc. 10 Plaintiff Complaint 11 VS. 12 **Demand For Jury Trial** Franklin Sports, Inc. 13 Defendant 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

MOUNT & STOELKER, P.C.
RIVERPARK TOWER, SUITE 1650
333 WEST SAN CARLOS STREET
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 951 10-2740
TELEPHONE (408) 279-7000
91
92
93

Qui tam relator San Francisco Technology Inc. ("SF Tech") files this Complaint against defendant Franklin Sports, Inc. ("Franklin Sports") and alleges as follows:

Nature of Action

1. This is a qui tam action to impose civil fines for false marking. As alleged further below, Franklin Sports has falsely marked articles in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 292 and must be civilly fined for each offense: "Whoever marks upon, or affixes to, or uses in advertising in connection with any unpatented article, the word 'patent' or any word or number importing that the same is patented, for the purpose of deceiving the public ... Shall be fined not more than \$500 for every such offense." Franklin Sports has falsely marked products with patents to induce the public to believe that each such product is protected by each patent listed and with knowledge that nothing is protected by an expired patent. Accordingly, Franklin Sports falsely marked articles with intent to deceive the public.

Parties

- 2. Plaintiff San Francisco Technology is a California corporation with its principal place of business in San Jose, California.
- 3. Upon information and belief, Franklin Sports is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 17 Campanelli Parkway, Stoughton, MA, 02072.

Jurisdiction & Venue

- 4. This court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a) and 1355(a).
 - 5. Venue is appropriate in this District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and 1395(a).
- 6. Upon information and belief, this court has personal jurisdiction over Franklin Sports because Franklin Sports has sold its products, including its falsely marked products in California and in this District and/or in the stream of commerce with knowledge that they would be sold in California and in this District. Upon information and belief, such sales are substantial, continuous, and systematic. Franklin Sports advertises its products, including its falsely marked products on its web site, at www.franklinsports.com. Franklin Sports advertises on that web site that its products are sold at many retail store chains which have locations in California and in this District, including

б

26 27

28

Sports Authority, Dick's Sporting Goods, JCPenney, and Target. 1

Intradistrict Assignment

7. This case is appropriate for District-wide assignment under Civil Local Rule 3-2(c) because the claims in this Complaint arise under 35 U.S.C. § 292, which is codified with the patent statutes.

Franklin Sport's False Marking

- SF Tech incorporates by reference all above allegations. 8.
- 9. Upon information and belief, Franklin Sports makes and sells many types of products, including the SX Street Extreme Pro Street Hockey "Roll-A-Puck" (the "Accused Product").
- Franklin Sports causes or contributes to the marking and advertising of products with 10. the U.S. Patent Nos. 4,801,144 and D323,369, including, but not limited to, the Accused Product.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,801,144, entitled "Hockey puck", issued on January 31, 1989. U.S. 11. Patent No. D323,369, also entitled "Hockey puck", issued on January 21, 1992.
- Franklin Sports individually marks the Accused Product: "US Pat. 4,801,144", US 12. Pat. D-323369", and "Canadian Pat 62392."
- On its website, Franklin Sports advertises the Accused Product as including the 13. "Patented ROLL-A-PUCK design." The web page dedicated to the Accused Product depicts four units of the Accused Product. On two of the pucks, the words "US PATENT NUMBER 4801144" are clearly visible. Franklin Sports designed this advertisement in a manner that makes this marking easily visible.
- U.S. Patent Nos. 4,801,144 and D323,369 are expired patents. Upon information and 14. belief, U.S. Patent No. 4,801,144 expired no later than September 2, 2007. Upon information and belief, U.S. Patent No. D323,369 expired no later than January 22, 2006.
- Franklin Sport's falsely marked products are being sold in 2010 with such false 15. markings, after the expiration of U.S. Patent Nos. 4,801,144 and D323,369.
- Franklin Sports is a sophisticated company and has many years of experience applying 16. for, obtaining, and maintaining patents. Franklin Sports also has extensive experience manufacturing

http://www.franklinsports.com/fsm/b2c/Franklin-Sports-Retailers.htm

http://www.franklinsports.com/fsm/b2c/streethockey/2010/12241.html

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

products and either marking or not marking them with words or numbers indicating that such products are protected by patents or pending applications.

- Upon information and belief, Franklin Sports (including Franklin Sports' patent 17. counsel) knew or should have known that the term of U.S. Patent Nos. 4,801,144 and D323,369 expired no later than their expiration dates.
- Franklin Sports is no longer paying maintenance fees to the United States Patent and 18. Trademark Office to maintain U.S. Patent No. 4,801,144.
- Upon information and belief, Franklin Sports knew or should have known that U.S. 19. Patent Nos. 4,801,144 and D323,369 had already expired at the same time Franklin Sports was marking and advertising products with U.S. Patent Nos. 4,801,144 and D323,369.
- Franklin Sports knows, or at least reasonably should know, that U.S. Patent Nos. 20. 4,801,144 and D323,369 do not protect the Accused Product, or any products whatsoever.
- Franklin Sports could have no reasonable belief that it was proper to mark and advertise products with the numbers of the expired U.S. Patent Nos. 4,801,144 and D323,369, and the false marking was done with intent to deceive the public by, including, but not limited to, misusing its patent rights to extend the term of its patents and inhibiting competition.
- 22. For at least the reasons set forth herein, Franklin Sports has wrongfully and illegally advertised patent rights which it does not possess, and, as a result, has likely benefited in at least maintaining its market share in the marketplace.
- For at least the reasons set forth herein, Franklin Sports has wrongfully and illegally 23. advertised patent rights which it does not possess, and, as a result, has likely caused the retail price of its Accused Product to be inflated above normal market levels, and has caused the public to face inflated prices for its products.
- The public deception, and/or competitive harm caused by each of Franklin Sports' 24. false markings has and continues to harm the United States and the public, including relator SF Tech, a representative of the public incurring the cost and time associated with this enforcement.

Demand For Judgment

SF Tech demands judgment against Franklin Sports, as follows:

Case4:10-cv-05210-PJH Document1 Filed11/17/10 Page5 of 5 A declaration that Franklin Sports violated 35 U.S.C. § 292. 1. 1 An accounting of the number, sales, and revenue of any falsely marked articles not 2. 2 3 presented at trial. A civil fine of \$500 for each offense — half paid to the U.S., and half paid to SF Tech. 4 3. Costs, including attorney fees. 5 4. A finding that this is an exceptional case. 6 5. 6. Any other relief the court deems appropriate. 7 **Demand For Jury Trial** 8 9 SF Tech demands a jury trial on all issues so triable. 10 Mount & Stoelker, P.C Date: November 17, 2010 11 12 Counsel for San Francisco Technology Inc. TELEPRONE (408) 279-7000 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Complaint

27

28

MOUNT & STOELKER, P.C. RIVERPARK TOWER, SUITE 1650 333 WEST SAN CARLOS STREET SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95110-2740

Page 4

1	HOWARD A. SLAVITT (State Bar # 172840)					
2	COBLENTZ, PATCH, DUFFY & BASS, LL One Ferry Building, Suite 200	.P				
3	San Francisco, CA 94111-4213					
4	Telephone: (415) 391-4800 Facsimile: (415) 989-1663					
5	E-mail: has@cpdb.com					
6	MICHAEL A. ALBERT (admitted pro hac vi					
7	GERALD B. HRYCYSZYN (State Bar # 227814) WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.					
	600 Atlantic Avenue					
8	Boston, MA 02210-2206 Telephone: 617-646-8000					
9	Facsimile: 617-646-8646					
10	E-mail: malbert@wolfgreenfield.com ghrycyszyn@wolfgreenfield.com					
11	Attornava for Defendent					
12	Attorneys for Defendant Franklin Sports, Inc.					
13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
14	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA					
15	OAKLAND DIVISION					
16						
17	SAN FRANCISCO TECHNOLOGY, INC.	Case No. C10-05210 PJH				
	Plaintiff,	STIPULATION OF TRANSFER AND ORDER				
18	vs.	Judge: Hon. Phyllis J. Hamilton				
19	FRANKLIN SPORTS, INC.	·				
20	Defendant.					
21						
22						
23						
24						
25		•				
26						
27						
28						
	Casa No. 10 ev 05210 PIH					

STIPULATION OF TRANSFER

Durfy & Bass, Lip san francisco, ca 94111-4213 fax (415) 989-1663 COBLENTZ, PATCH, Ferry Building, Suite 200, (415) 391-4800 • 1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Plaintiff San Francisco Technology, Inc. ("SF Tech") and Defendant Franklin Sports, Inc. ("Franklin"), by and through their respective counsel, jointly stipulate as follows.

WHEREAS Franklin filed a motion seeking dismissal of SF Tech's claims against Franklin pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 9(b) and 12(b)(6), and, in the alternative, to transfer this action to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) (D.I. 19).

WHEREAS SF Tech does not oppose Franklin's request to transfer venue to the District of Massachusetts.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between counsel for the undersigned parties as follows:

- 1. The court may transfer this case to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts: and
 - 2. Franklin's Motion to Dismiss is deferred for ruling by the District of Massachusetts.

SIGNATURES

In accordance with General Order 45.X.B., Gerald B. Hrycyszyn, counsel for Franklin, attests that each other signatory listed below has concurred in this filing.

/s/ Daniel H. Fingerman Counsel for San Francisco Technology, Inc. Date: March 23, 2011 Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C. /s/ Gerald B. Hrycyszyn

Mount, Spelman & Fingerman, P.C.,

Counsel for Franklin Sports Inc.

PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED. This case will be transferred to the

District of Massachusetts and the Motion to Dismiss deferred for ruling by the District of Massachusetts.

3/23/11 Dated: HON. PHYLLIS J. United States District

Case No. 10-cv-05210 PJH STIPULATION OF TRANSFER

Date: March 23, 2011